

(1) Introduction

Islam is a unique religion that is based on the concept of Tawheed (Oneness of God). It is a core pillar of Islam that Allah Almighty is the only creator of this universe. It is a foundational belief clearly mentioned in Holy Quran and Sunnah. Monotheism impacts both individual and collective life of a person. It fosters spiritual fulfilment, enhances moral and ethical development, and ensures emotional well-being. Additionally, Tawheed strengthens a person's belief to remain resilient during hardships of life and safeguards him from materialism of today's world. On the other hand, Tawheed fosters a moderate, and justice society that prioritize humanism over tyranny. Likewise, Tawheed helps to build a responsible and conscious society ~~that~~ ~~and~~ through collective well-being of individuals.

(2) Tawheed is the bedrock of Islam

Tawheed or monotheism means oneness of God. It is a core pillar of Islam over which its foundation is based. Without belief in Tawheed, a person can't be considered muslim. Allama Shibli Naumani, a scholar, stated that Holy Prophet (PBUH) said

that islam is like a fort and gate to this fort is tauheed.

Almighty Allah never forgives those individuals who deviate from this belief voluntarily. He has strictly denied believes of polytheism, shirk or other gods. Hence, islam's bedrock is tauheed, the unity of God.

(3) Significance of Tauheed

The significance of tauheed can be testified from different sources of islam as discussed below:

(a) The Holy Quran: Allah says in Quran that

He is Allah who is one;

He neither begets, nor is

born; Nor is there to him

any equivalent

(Surah Ikhlas)

(b) Kalma Tayaba: The first part of Kalma Tayaba also testifies the monotheism

Allah is one and the only

creature of this universe and

Muhammad is the messenger

of Allah [Kalma Tayaba]

(c) Hadith; Prophet (PBUH) also clearly mentioned that, Islam is the name of three things:

- (1) To believe in Allah Almighty
- (2) To follow his messenger,
- (3) To follow commandments of Allah

(d) Scholarly Reference; Imam Abu Hanifa gave logical reasoning and explanation of the creator of universe. As human wisdom accept that nothing can be created without a creator. Then how a disbeliever claims that this whole universe full of perfect things ^{was} created on its own through an ~~explosio~~ explosion. Hence, it is clear that this universe is created by one and only, Allah, consolidating the belief of tauheed.

(4) Impact of Tauheed on individual life

(a) Tauheed fosters spiritual fulfilment in a believer;

As a person believes in oneness of God and pray before one God only, he becomes satisfied with his faith. On the other hand, when a man pursue multiple gods or follow worldly things only, he ends up being depressed and purposeless. Hence, concept of tauheed

Provides a purpose of life and fulfills his spiritual ~~belief~~ belief.

(b) Unity of God aids a person to endure hardships of life; Belief in Allah (Tawakkul)

Strengthens a person's faith. As Almighty Allah has ensured a man in Holy Quran that

After every hardship there is ease.

Hence, belief in monotheism helps a man to be resilient in every difficult situation of life.

(c) Tauheed increases emotional well-being of an individual; The non-believers in

the contemporary world are finding the purpose of life, and they are stuck in psychological stress, depression, anxiety, and loneliness. Tauheed satisfies these psychological constraints. As ~~the~~ a muslim believes that Allah is the one who will reward him for his good and bad deeds, which restores emotional well being of a person.

(d) Belief in Tauheed helps in moral and ethical development; Belief in monotheism

also requires a person to follow teachings of Islam. Allah has provided complete guidance

of life at every sphere of life. Islam encourages peace, tolerance, forgiveness, resilience, honesty, truthfulness, humility and compassion. Hence, tauheed improved overall character and moral development of a person.

(e) Concept of Tauheed saves an individual from pursuance of materialism of the world ; In today's world, science and

technology has transformed the world undoubtedly. However, deviation of morality, love for material wealth and worldly things are more common. Concept of tauheed awares a person regarding spiritual development. Hence, it ends the race of this secular, temporary world and gives a person assurance about his rewards in hereafter.

(f) Impact of Tauheed on collective life

(a) Concept of monotheism encourages a peaceful and pluralist society ; Islam is

a moderate deen that teaches harmonious co-existence. Islam provides freedom of religion and ~~pro~~ denies coercion, violence or intolerance. As Allah says in Quran,

There is no compulsion in Religion

[Surah Baqarah]

(b) Fostering humility and humbleness in a society : As prophet Muhammad (PBUH) always remained humble despite various hardships and challenges. Similarly, Allah has ordained ^{His} believers to be humble, kind and compassionate. Individuals remain kind in a society, leading to a tolerant society.

(c) Tauheed makes a person accountable for his deeds before Allah, ~~me~~

When an individual believes in Allah's oneness, he remains conscious about his deeds despite being alone. This concept makes him accountable for his action. It not only improves societal well being but also encourage towards betterment. Hence, concept of tauheed paves the way for a better collective life.

(6) Conclusion

To sum up, Tauheed means unity of God. It is a fundamental belief in Islam that is also mentioned in Holy Quran and Sunnah. Concept of Tauheed improves both individual and collective life of an individual. Through moral development and self-accountability, tauheed provides a moderate, tolerant and virtuous society.

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(1) Introduction

There are five basic pillars of Islam and one of them is prayer. ~~It~~ It was made obligatory on Muslims on the night of Mairaj. Prayer or Salat means to make dua. It means to humbly ask for something before Allah. It is an important obligation for which a believer will be asked on the day of resurrection.

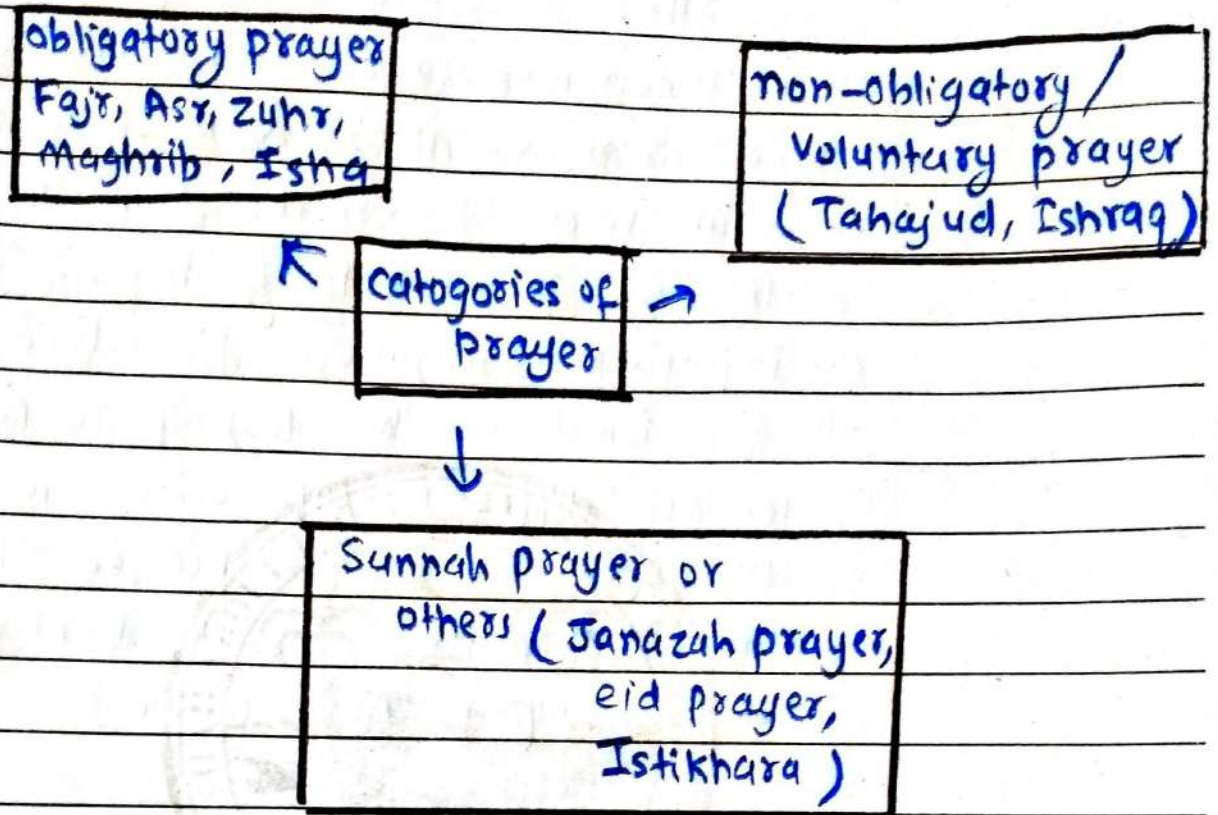
Prayer has different categories, such as obligatory, voluntary and Sunnah prayer. It provides spiritual fulfilment, moral development, and community welfare as a whole.

(2) Meaning of prayer in Islam

The Arabic word for prayer is 'Salat'. It means to make dua. Prayer means to humbly ask for something from Almighty Allah. It is an organized act which includes ~~that~~ Rukoo, Sajdah, and Qiyam. In prostration, a person places highest part of his body on ~~at~~ the floor which implies that he surrenders himself before Allah. Its obligation is given in Holy Quran in Surah Baqarah where Allah says that

And establish prayer and give zakat and bow with those who bow in worship and obedience (Surah Al-Baqarah)

(3) Different categories of prayer



(a) Obligatory prayer; Allah has ordered a muslim to perform five obligatory prayer daily. These include Fajr (sunrise), Zuhr (afternoon), Asr, Maghrib (sunset), and Isha (night prayer). These are required by Allah - It doesn't mean that Allah need its but it is just a test for His believer.

(b) Voluntary prayer; Voluntary prayers, such as Tahajjud, Ishraq (sunrise prayer), and Tawbah (prayer of repentance), are not required by Allah. However, a believer performs

them for to gain pleasure of Allah. He seeks forgiveness for his sins. &

(c) Other prayers like Sunnah; These prayers are sunnah or of other categories that are performed at different occasions, such as eid prayer, Sajdah prayer, istikhara, and tarawih etc.

(4) Impacts of prayer on a follower

(a) Spiritual impacts of prayer

(i) Prayer infiltrates a feeling of closeness to Allah; As Holy Prophet (PBUH) said that

"Closest a person to his God when he is in complete prostration"

When a person offers prayer, perform different acts of prayers; it produces a sense of ~~close~~ closeness to Allah. ~~that~~ Hence, it encourages a person to perform more prayers and attain satisfaction.

(ii) Spiritual fulfilment of an individual;

The individual seeks satisfaction and spiritual fulfilment after offering prayers. It provides a belief of accomplishment of

purpose of life.

(iii) Ensuring emotional well-being of an individual; world is full of tensions, conflicts, hectic routines and stress. When an individual takes some time from his tough routine and prostrate before Allah, it ensures emotional well-being and removes stress from his life.

(b) Moral impacts of prayer

(i) Namaz encourages moral and ethical development of an individual; when a muslim performs five daily prayers, it becomes difficult for him to repeat same sins and ask for forgiveness frequently. Hence, it creates a sense of consciousness about bad and good deeds. Therefore, a person who perform prayers, gradually increases his moral development.

(ii) Prayer enhances both spiritual and physical cleanliness; For salah, a person not only spiritually attains height but also physically cleanse himself. Purity is pre-requisite, so he removes filth and dirt from his body. Hence, prayer increase

Physical cleanliness as well,

(iii) Enhancing discipline in daily life

As a man performs prayer timely, automatically, his whole schedule becomes organized. So, prayer helps to maintain discipline as well.

(c) Social impacts of prayer

(i) Sense of Equality fosters in a community

When congregational prayer is performed, all people irrespective of their ethnicity, caste, colour, social status, and creed all stand equally before Allah in one line. Hence, prayer ensures equality in a community.

(ii) Unity and Brotherhood in a society

Prayer performed in congregation increases a sense of unity and brotherhood in a society. During prayer time, all Muslims all over the world perform namaz, illustrating unity of Muslim world.

(iii) Mosques act as community centers

Mosques become centers of communication where daily matters of community are

discussed. Hence, they help ~~to~~ in communication fostering peaceful co-existence in a society.

(5) Conclusion

To conclude, Prayer is an important pillar of Islam which means to make dua and seek forgiveness from Allah. It has different categories like obligatory worship, voluntary prayers and others. It enhances spiritual fulfillment, moral well-being, and integrates society. Therefore, prayer improves both individual collective well-being of a society.